

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Performance Progress Report**

2. Award Or Grant Number  
55-50-M09015

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)  
07/30/2010

1. Recipient Name  
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

3. Street Address  
610 N Whitney Way

8. Final Report?  
 Yes  
 No

9. Report Frequency  
 Quarterly  
 Semi Annual  
 Annual  
 Final

5. City, State, Zip Code  
Madison, WI 53705

7. Project / Grant Period  
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)  
11/01/2009

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)  
10/30/2014

8. Reporting Period End Date:  
(MM/DD/YYYY)  
06/30/2010

9a. If Other, please describe:

**10. Broadband Mapping**

10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
113	113	95	101	0	34

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office?  Yes  No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project?  Yes  No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

We have not encountered providers who have flatly refused to participate. However, the data we receive from providers varies greatly depending upon their attitude toward the program and their concerns over data privacy. By in large, we did not receive quality Middle Mile data in the first data collection round. A high percentage of providers also submitted Max Advertised Speed, but not Typical Speed or Subscriber Weighted Nominal speed. At the writing of this report, we are beginning our Round 2 data collection process. We have identified the specific gaps for each provider and are focused on collecting the missing information in this second round. There were also several known providers who we simply could not contact, and we are learning of new providers through additional outreach efforts that are beginning this month. After the data submission on March 31st, however, we did not aggressively pursue new providers while we focused on the development of our first state maps - so the provider counts reported for Q2 are identical to those at the end of Q1.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

We are using third-party data to both verify coverage for existing providers and to fill in gaps where provider data submissions were incomplete. We are also launching drive testing efforts later this year and are collecting consumer speed test information via our state web site. Finally, we are commencing consumer surveys in Q3 and will be seeking information on consumer connectivity via those surveys through the remainder of this year.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

Data verification in Q2 consisted primarily of three separate processes:

- 1) PDF check maps showing specific coverage footprints were prepared for each provider who submitted data in Q1. These maps were shared through a secure server and showed only the census blocks and street segments we derived from the data provided. Providers were asked to self-verify this data.
- 2) Processes were run within the data to check for "islands" and "donut holes." These are anomalies where a block is listed as covered by the provider but no adjacent or nearby blocks are reported by the same provider. Or, conversely, all but a single block in a large area are covered. We flag these suspect blocks and then investigate with providers when possible. We are using the second data collection process to investigate and correct many of these possible errors.
- 3) We use processes to compare third-party data against data reported by providers and flag anomalies. We then investigate those issues with providers.

With the launch of our online state maps, we will be adding addition consumer verification methods and will continue to expand our surveys and drive testing as the program goes forward.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities?  Yes  No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

See 10f above. The first three activities have already been undertaken on the first dataset collected and we are using the second data collection process to resolve the anomalies with providers. We expect verification to be an ongoing and expanding effort as the program matures.

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities

N/A

**Staffing**

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

SBDD funding has resulted in 1.1 total FTE. All new/retained FTEs are at the project Sub-Recipient. No PSC positions are being directly funded by the SBDD program.

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed?  Yes  No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

N/A

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

N/A

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
CEO - Supervisory Role	0.05	11/01/2009
Project Director	0.2	11/01/2009
Project Manager	0.3	11/01/2009
GIS Director	0.2	11/01/2009
Internal System Support/Architecture	0.1	11/01/2009
Provider Relations Manager	0.25	11/01/2009

**Sub Contracts**

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
CostQuest Associates Inc./ LinkAMERICA Alliance	Project Management/ GIS Programming & Planning Services	Y	Y	11/01/2009	10/30/2011	\$1,232,328	\$0

**Funding**

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? ~~\$321,703~~      10q. How much Remains? ~~\$910,625~~

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? ~~\$168,931~~      10s. How much Remains? ~~\$260,490~~

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries		\$176,579				
Personnel Fringe Benefits		\$70,279				
Travel		\$2,680				
Equipment		\$9,950				
Materials / Supplies		\$1,002				
Subcontracts Total	\$1,232,328		\$1,661,749	\$321,703	\$168,931	\$490,634
Subcontract #1	\$1,232,328	\$0	\$1,232,328	\$321,703	\$0	\$321,703
Subcontract #2						
Subcontract #3						
Subcontract #4						
Subcontract #5						
Construction						
Other		\$168,931				
Total Direct Costs	\$1,232,328	\$429,421	\$1,661,749	\$321,703	\$168,931	\$490,634
Total Indirect Costs						
Total Costs	\$1,232,328	\$429,421	\$1,661,749	\$321,703	\$168,931	\$490,634
% Of Total	74.16	25.84		65.57	34.43	100

## Hardware / Software

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application?  Yes  No

10v. If yes, please list

Very little hardware/software was specified in the application - outside of approximately \$2500 for PCs and equipment that was included in the contractor's budget for the Project Manager position. No hardware/software was included in the WI PSC's budget as the Prime Recipient. The primary contractor (sub-recipient) is providing all GIS, mapping, and web server hardware/software on a contract basis in Years 1-2. Content will be transitioned to the state at the end of Year 2 or Year 5 depending upon the outcome of the recent Supplemental Application for Data Collection.

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

Software and hardware were not specified in the original application or budget outside of the single PC described in 10v above. Hardware and software are provided on a hosted/service basis.

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets?  Yes  No

10y. If yes, please list

American Roamer, Media Prints, and ExchangeInfo

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?  Yes  No

10aa. If yes, please list

The beta interactive map for the LinkWISCONSIN website was released to an internal/state audience for review in June 2010. Public release is scheduled for August, 2010.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

Data normalization and initial verification steps have taken longer than expected. Additional GIS programming resources were applied by the contractor. Several issues were uncovered in the data as the beta maps were developed. This required more extensive database work and data reprocessing than was originally expected. Again, the contractor applied additional programming resources to address this issue. As a result, the sub-budget for GIS Programming services is diminishing more rapidly than expected. However, we are monitoring the budget closely and expect the extra work at the beginning of the project will result in time savings in the later/final months.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

Data verification continues to be a difficult and time-consuming issue. As initial beta maps were reviewed by state personnel, several potential errors were found. However, an analysis of the data indicated that providers indeed reported coverage in the areas that state personnel knew are uncovered. The potential number of these types of anomalies is unknown at this point, but with the public launch of the web maps, we expect a very high volume of similar reports based on individual consumers' experience at specific locations that are indeed uncovered - but may fall within "covered" census blocks. We will continue to develop our own confidence scoring system that alerts users to potentially suspect data - but do not intend to override a provider's coverage report based solely on consumer data. If we can use ground-truthing or other onsite techniques to verify coverage, we will consider overriding provider data, but the potential number of reports may be too large for every report to be individually pursued/verified. We will know more about the scope of this issue as the maps are released to the public in Q3.

## 11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status

The Planning team completed 28 interviews with key in-state leaders representing major sectors (government, telecom providers, business, education, health care, public safety, community support organizations). A comprehensive report of the interview findings was written and delivered to state staff and posted on the LinkWisconsin website. The report outlines Wisconsin readiness for broadband development, an inventory of available resources to be leveraged and specific strategic actions that can be considered for the State broadband planning process. The team also conducted two focused debrief sessions with interviewees regarding the accuracy, style and format of the final report of the interview process. State government representatives were consulted to determine the most appropriate regional breakdown of the state for planning purposes. After completion of the interviews and written report, the team prepared prototype interactive video and web surveys to promote awareness to the general public and to help collect localized data to prioritize broadband investments. These videos will be released to the public in Q3. The team also established a highly customizable template for building final regional broadband investment plans. Additional state contacts were developed for further assistance from anchor institutions. Finally an initial "demand-side" map prototype was completed - with rendering of interactive

online map of counties and planning regions linked to demand-side data.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

The Planning process ran into no significant obstacles in Q2. on the contrary, the support from the PSC, interviewees, and other state contacts/stakeholders has been superb.

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning?  Yes  No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

N/A

**Funding**

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$118,617

11f. How much Remains? \$366,739

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$0

11h. How much Remains? \$0

11i. Planning Worksheet

Planning Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries						
Personnel Fringe Benefits						
Travel						
Equipment						
Materials / Supplies						
<b>Subcontracts Total</b>	<b>\$485,356</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$485,356</b>	<b>\$118,617</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$118,617</b>
Subcontract #1	\$485,356	\$0	\$485,356	\$118,617	\$0	\$118,617
Subcontract #2						
Subcontract #3						
Subcontract #4						
Subcontract #5						
Construction						
Other						
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$485,356</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$485,356</b>	<b>\$118,617</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$118,617</b>
Total Indirect Costs						
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$485,356</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$485,356</b>	<b>\$118,617</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$118,617</b>
% Of Total	100	0	100	100	0	100

**Additional Planning Information**

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

No further information

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing

As described above, the Planning process has experience no significant obstacles in Wisconsin and is very pleased with project progress.

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

No further information.

12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose set forth in the award documents.

12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

SARAH KLEIN, Administrator

12c. Telephone

(area code, number, and extension)

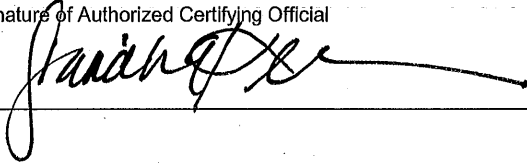
608/266-3587

Division of Administrative Services

12d. Email Address

Sarah.Klein@wisconsin.gov

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official



12e. Date Report Submitted

(Month, Day, Year)

07/29/2010

Performance Progress Report  
OMB Approval Number: 0660-0034  
Expiration Date: 08/31/2010